



Goodwill Celebrates One Mission, Many Achievements at Hall of Honor Event Goodwill Industries Of Central Texas Honors Three Individuals Who Overcame Barriers to Employment

AUSTIN, TX – Goodwill Industries of Central Texas proudly announces its fifteenth annual Hall of Honor event on Thursday, February 25, 2010, where three individuals who have overcome barriers to employment will be honored for their accomplishments. The Texas Department of State Health Services, Prevention and Preparedness Division will also be receiving an award for supporting employment in the community by helping Goodwill fulfill its mission.

Goodwill's Hall of Honor event is celebrating "One Mission, Many Achievements" in the workplace. The three individuals being inducted have overcome various barriers to employment, including being homeless, having a criminal record, having substance abuse issues, living in poverty and having a lack of education, which made employment difficult to obtain. Through Goodwill's support and employment services, which may include resume and interview training, job coaching, basic needs assistance, or help with locating proper childcare, these individuals have achieved gainful employment in the community.

"The three individuals being honored during the Hall of Honor didn't just achieve gainful employment in spite of a barrier, they have achieved something Goodwill works to instill in everyone we help—a greater level of self-sufficiency," said Gerald Davis, president and CEO of Goodwill. "This event is Goodwill's mission at work, and our honorees should be very proud of their successes in both the workplace and in life."

During the banquet, a Business Partnership Award will be presented to a community employer that has supported Goodwill's mission in a significant way, The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Prevention and Preparedness Division. For more than 15 years, DSHS has worked with Goodwill Staffing Services to support Goodwill's mission. Their partnership has opened doors for more than 750 Goodwill clients since 2005 by connecting them with meaningful employment on a temp and temp-to-hire basis.

Last year, Goodwill served more than 13,000 individuals with barriers to employment—that's 3,000 more people than the previous year—by connecting them with the resources they need to move through obstacles within the workforce. These barriers include physical and mental disabilities, as well as disadvantaging conditions such as lack of education and work experience, chronic homelessness and unemployment, at-risk youth, advanced age, criminal backgrounds and language barriers. For more than 50 years, Goodwill has helped thousands of Central Texans gain self-sufficiency through meaningful employment.

This year's banquet, held on Thursday, February 25 at the Goodwill Community Center is underwritten by sponsors, which allows Goodwill to invite and educate more community members about Goodwill's mission. To learn more about Goodwill's Hall of Honor Awards Banquet, visit www.AustinGoodwill.org.

About Goodwill Industries of Central Texas

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the mission of providing job-related services for people with barriers to employment. Revenue generated through the sale of donated goods is used to fund job training and employment programs for Central Texans. For more information about Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, visit www.austingoodwill.org.

Media Contact:

Suzanha Peña, Director of Marketing
Goodwill Industries of Central Texas
(O): 512.637.7158; (C): 512.748.0132
Suzanha.Pena@AustinGoodwill.org

Amy Rames, Communications Specialist
Goodwill Industries of Central Texas
(O): 512.637.7124; (C): 512.748.1629
Amy.Rames@AustinGoodwill.org